SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

WEEKLY HEADINGS

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Happy Labor Day! While the holiday honors the contributions and achievements of American workers, it also marks the 'unofficial' end of summer. Whether you're enjoying a backyard barbecue, a trip to the beach, a local parade, or simply time with family and friends, there are plenty of ways to make the most of the long weekend. For investors, however, Labor Day signals more than summer's end. It marks a return of focus to the economic and market forces that will shape the remainder of the year. While students head *back to school*, investors head *back to business* (though this summer offered little downtime for market watchers). From resilient earnings and record AI spending to rising bond yields and the midterm elections, there is no shortage of forces shaping the market outlook. Below, we examine several key questions facing investors and share our perspective on how these trends may unfold in the months ahead.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Fiscal Sustainability Has Returned To The Spotlight

Debt Has Become A Critical Funding Source For Hyperscalers

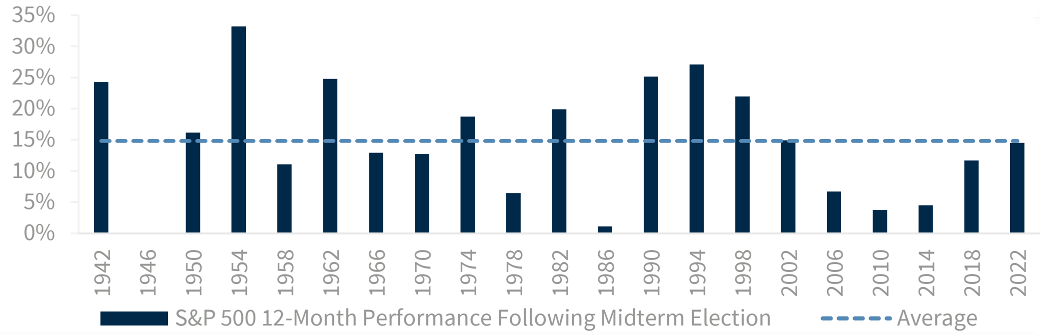
2026 May Mark Peak Earnings *Growth*, But *Not* Peak Earnings

- **Is The Consumer Tapped Out? |** Recent data suggest consumers are becoming more selective, as retail sales soften, some retailers report signs of strain, and the savings rate remains low. With consumer spending accounting for ~70% of GDP, any slowdown bears scrutiny.
  Our View: The consumer is not tapped out, but spending is increasingly reliant on higher-income households. Strong balance sheets, rising asset values, and wealth gains continue to support spending at the top end, while lower-income consumers remain pressured by higher living costs and limited savings. This imbalance leaves consumption more vulnerable to inflation, labor market weakness, or other shocks. For now, affluent consumers continue to power spending, helping sustain economic growth.
- **Will the Growing US National Debt Trigger a Crisis? |** Last month, the national debt surpassed $40 trillion for the first time, roughly double 2017 levels. As fiscal sustainability returns to the spotlight, concerns about a potential debt crisis are growing.
  Our View: Rising debt, persistent deficits, and higher interest costs (now over $1 trillion annually) are increasing pressure on government finances. Yet despite years of warnings, a debt crisis has yet to emerge. Could this time be different? While risks are building, we believe the US has more flexibility than many headlines suggest. The US borrows in its own currency, the dollar remains the world's reserve currency, and demand for Treasuries remains solid despite heavy issuance. Eventually, Congress will need to address the fiscal trajectory. For now, however, the greater risk is <u>not</u> a sudden debt crisis, but a gradual erosion of fiscal flexibility over time.
- **Is AI Debt Issuance Driving Yields Higher?|** As hyperscalers race to build AI infrastructure, debt has become a critical funding source. With AI spending likely to exceed ~$1t annually from 2027-2030, some investors worry that AI-related borrowing is pushing bond yields higher.
  Our View: AI-related debt issuance has surged, with hyperscaler borrowing rising from an annual average of $22 billion in 2022-2024 to $93 billion in 2025. YTD issuance is approaching ~$160 billion and exceeds $220 billion including foreign currency issuance. While still modest relative to the overall corporate bond market, the rapid increase is creating pockets of supply pressure. Hyperscalers accounted for ~1% of investment grade issuance in 2024 versus about 10% YTD, with nearly half issued at longer maturities. That may be contributing to higher yields at the margin, but it is not the primary driver. Importantly, demand remains strong, with many deals oversubscribed by ~3-to-1. In addition, hyperscalers continue to deliver robust earnings growth, helping justify the massive investments being made in AI infrastructure.
- **Does Peak Earnings Growth Imply Earnings Have Peaked? |** With 2Q26 earnings posting their strongest gain in five years, up 51% YoY including one-time investment gains, investors are asking whether the *level* of earnings has reached its high-water mark.
  Our View: After stronger than expected results in both 1Q26 and 2Q26, consensus forecasts call for S&P 500 earnings to grow 33% for all of 2026, the fastest pace since 2010. Consensus expects earnings growth to moderate to 15% in 2027, suggesting this year may mark the peak in earnings <u>growth</u>, but <u>not</u> peak earnings. Profits are still projected to rise next year and reach another record high, just at a slower pace. This year's outsized gains were boosted by two one-time factors: non-cash investment revaluation gains at several mega-caps and IEEPA tariff refunds across a range of companies. As those tailwinds fade, earnings growth should normalize, but the broader earnings outlook remains positive and supportive for the continuation of the equity bull market.
- **Will The Midterm Elections Move The Markets? |** With just 60 days until the midterm elections, Washington is moving back into investors' focus. While elections can spark headlines and increase volatility, their market impact is often short-lived.
  Our View: Politics matters, but we believe the economy, earnings, the Fed, and valuations matter more. Volatility often rises around midterm elections, yet history suggests those swings are temporary. Since 1942, the S&P 500 has produced a 15% average return and been positive 100% of the time in the 12 months following a midterm election, regardless of the outcome. While conventional wisdom suggests markets perform best under divided government, we are less convinced, as it reduces the likelihood of fiscal stimulus providing support to the economy.

CHART OF THE WEEK

The S&P 500 Historically Gains Following The Midterm Elections

Midterm election years are typically associated with muted returns and elevated volatility. However, in the 12 months following the midterm election, the S&P 500 has gained ~15%, on average, and is positive 100% of the time.



Source: FactSet data as of 9/3/26.

Economy

- Employment growth was much stronger than expected in August, surging by 162k while the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.1%. Both June and July were revised up by a net 55k confirming that the earlier weakness was largely overstated.
- Job openings increased modestly to 7.3m in July, with little movement in hiring, quits, and separations. Overall, the report points to a stable but gradually softening labor market, with subdued hiring and quits signaling caution among employers and workers.
- Both ISM manufacturing and services PMIs remained firmly in expansion in August. The price subindices remained elevated (above 70%) for both sectors, with respondents citing tariffs, the US/Iran conflict, and trade uncertainty as drivers of elevated price pressures.
- **Focus of the Week:** Inflation will be front and center in the holiday-shortened week, with focus on core (ex. food & energy) measures amid higher oil prices driven by the US-Iran war. Consensus points to a reacceleration in Thursday's core PPI from to 4.6% YoY, while we expect Friday's core CPI to slow from 2.5% to 2.4%. Friday's Michigan Sentiment will also provide updated inflation expectations.

September 7 – September 11

MON *Labor Day (Markets Closed)*

TUE NFIB Small Business Index
Consumer Credit

WED

THU ECB Meeting
PPI
Existing Home Sales

FRI CPI
Michigan Sentiment
Treasury Budget

FUTURE EVENTS 9/16 FOMC Meeting
9/17 Pending Home Sales

Equity

- The S&P 500 is on track to gain 0.5% this week, marking its second straight weekly advance as stocks continue to climb the wall of worry. Despite a steady stream of macroeconomic and geopolitical challenges this year, market volatility has remained remarkably subdued. The VIX currently sits at 14.2, near its lowest level of the year. Even more striking, the S&P 500 has experienced just one pullback of 5% or more in 2026, well below the historical average of three to four such declines in a typical year. The summer months told a similar story. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, a period that often sees elevated volatility amid lighter trading volumes, the index's maximum drawdown was just 4.5%, compared with a historical average of 6.7%.
- One area that hasn't shown the same resilience is small-cap stocks. The Russell 2000 has trailed the S&P 500 by 5.3% quarter-to-date, marking its weakest relative performance since 2Q24. As we've highlighted before, small caps tend to be more sensitive to changes in interest rates and the economic outlook. The recent rise in energy prices, bond yields, and expectations for Fed policy has created a tougher backdrop for smaller companies, many of which carry more floating-rate debt than their large-cap peers. As a result, we remain neutral on small caps and continue to favor large caps, which we believe are better positioned to navigate the macroeconomic and geopolitical uncertainties that have emerged in 2026.
- **Focus of the Week:** With earnings season over, investors will refocus on economic data, particularly next week's key inflation reports.

Fixed Income

- Renewed Middle East attacks pushed oil to a six-week high, briefly lifting the 10-year US Treasury yield to 4.82%, its highest intra-day level since October 2023. Fed Governors Williams and Waller helped calm markets by expressing confidence in inflation's trajectory and willingness to keeping rates unchanged in September, though Waller added that next week's inflation data will be key. A stronger than expected jobs report emphasizes that point, keeping the Fed's focus squarely on inflation while leaving yields higher on the week.
- Rising energy costs are reigniting inflation pressures abroad, particularly in energy-importing regions such as Europe and Japan. As a result, both the ECB and BOJ are expected to raise rates when they meet this month, with the BOJ continuing its policy normalization as inflation approaches its 2% target. Across the G10, central banks have delivered eight rate hikes this year and zero cuts, a sharp reversal from last year, when there were just two hikes, both in Japan, and 31 rate cuts. Higher oil prices and expectations for tighter global monetary policy have pushed sovereign yields higher worldwide, adding upward pressure to US Treasury yields.
- **Focus of the Week:** PPI and CPI will provide the Fed's final read on inflation ahead of its Sept 15-16 meeting. Treasury auctions of 3-, 10-, and 30-year securities will also draw heightened scrutiny as investors digest rising yields and concerns over the US national debt.

Washington Policy

- The near-term risk of a government shutdown fell this week after the House passed a stopgap funding bill to keep the federal government open through December 11, avoiding a pre-election shutdown and pushing the next major appropriations fight into the lame-duck session. The bill largely maintains current agency funding levels and extends highway and transit authorities.
- The data center debate also escalated this week, with Democrats attacking Republicans as "pro-data center without any restraints" and tying the issue to affordability, electricity costs, and GOP tax policy. President Trump endorsed data centers as drivers of lower taxes, job creation, and local economic growth, while warning that opposition would benefit China.

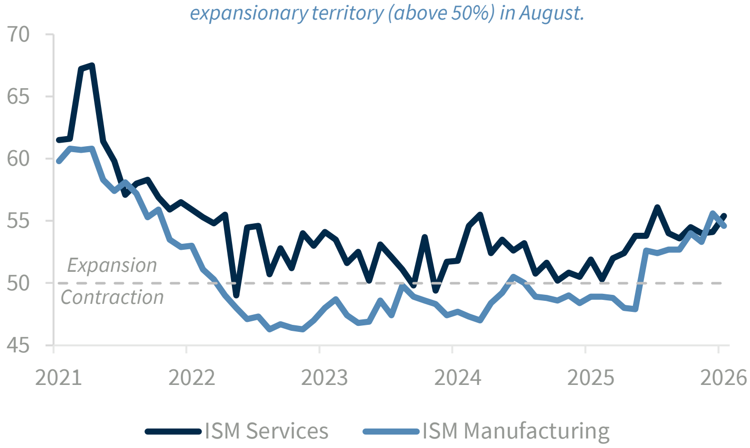
Energy

- As the Middle East disruptions drag on, the new oil deal between the US and Venezuelan governments may raise hopes that Venezuelan supply could eventually cushion the shortfall. But several question marks will need to be addressed. How much staying power will this deal have? There is pushback from Venezuelan political figures, raising the prospect that a future leader might renegotiate. Also, how will North American Blue Energy Partners—a relatively obscure, privately held company—raise the cash to finance its capital spending? The White House projects that capex may reach $100 billion over the long run, but it is uncertain whether this firm could do so by itself.
- Meanwhile, the rig count is a useful metric that highlights the Venezuelan oil industry's dilapidated state. Thus far in 2026, there have been only two drilling rigs operating. In the post-COVID era, that figure never topped three. By contrast, a decade ago there were more than 50 rigs. Current production is 1.2 million bpd, having been slowly rebounding after bottoming at 0.7 million bpd in 2021. If the recent pace of growth (in percentage terms) were sustained, it would imply that the 2016 run-rate of 2.6 million bpd might be reached around 2033. A pickup in drilling could lead to acceleration, but meaningful volume growth is still unlikely before 2029/30.

Charts of the Week

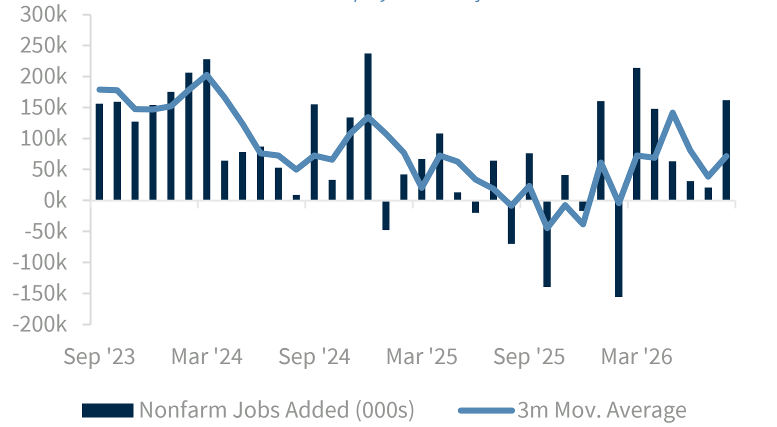
Expansionary Streak Extends

Both ISM Manufacturing and Services PMIs remained in expansionary territory (above 50%) in August.



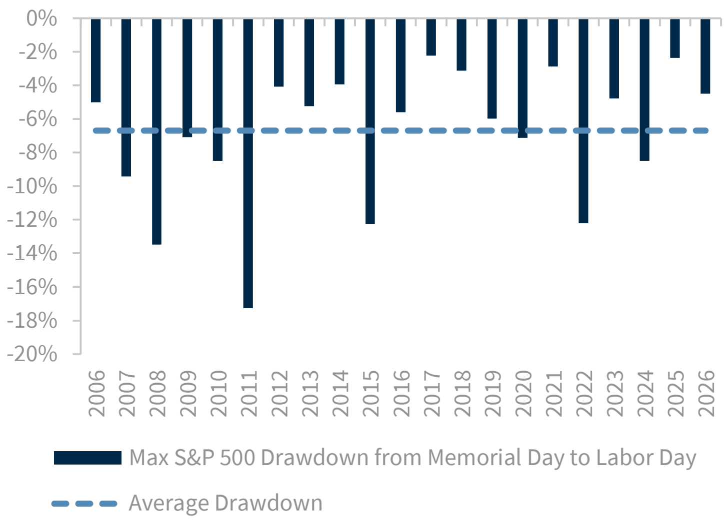
Payrolls Surge In August

Nonfarm payrolls were up 162k in August, while June and July were revised up by a net 55k jobs.



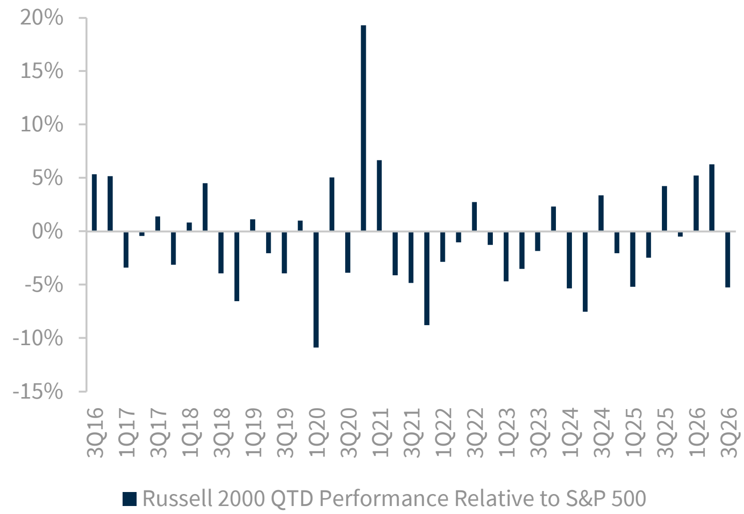
Muted Volatility This Summer

The S&P 500 experienced a maximum drawdown of -4.5% this summer, below the average of -6.7%.



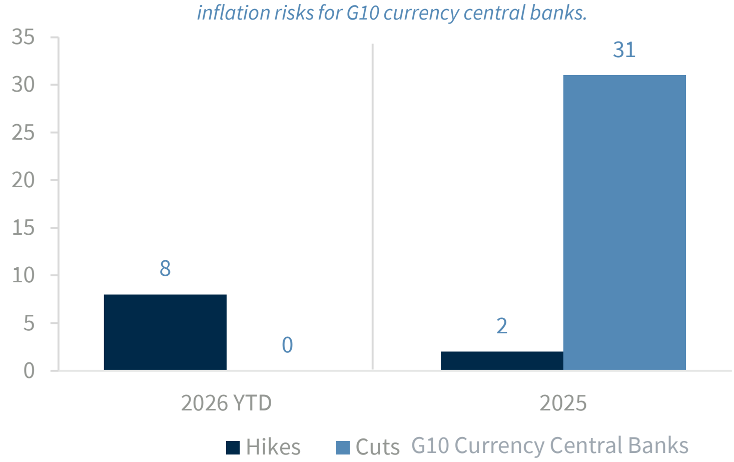
Small-Cap Underperformance

Small caps have underperformed large caps by -5.3% QTD, the worst relative performance since 2Q24.



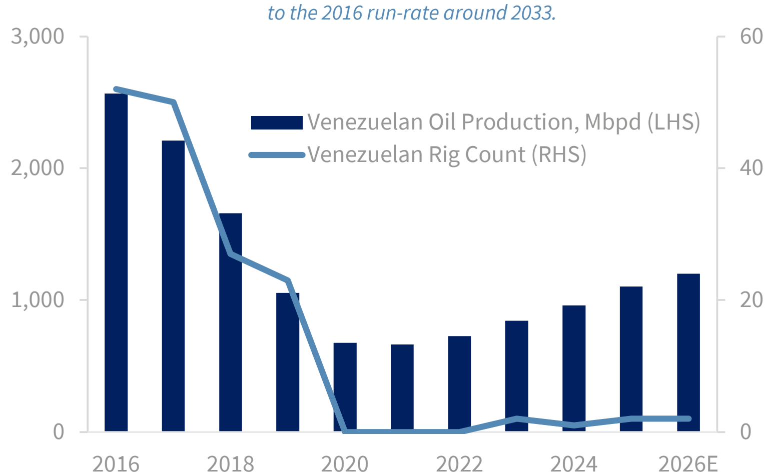
Major Central Banks Pivot To Hikes

Fallout from the US-Iran war has led to higher energy costs and upside inflation risks for G10 currency central banks.



Venezuelan Oil Output Is Rebounding At A Slow Pace

If the recent pace of production growth were sustained, it would imply a return to the 2016 run-rate around 2033.



Source for charts: FactSet, as of 9/3/2026. G10 currency central banks represent the US, euro zone, Japan, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Switzerland, Norway, and Sweden. The two hikes in 2025 were the BOJ in Japan.

RAYMOND JAMES

Asset Class Performance | Distribution by Asset Class and Style (as of September 3)**

Weekly Returns (as of September 3)

US Equities (Russell indices)

	Value	Blend	Growth
Large Cap	0.7%	0.2%	-0.4%
Mid Cap	-0.5%	-1.0%	-2.5%
Small Cap	-0.4%	-1.5%	-2.6%

International Equities (MSCI indices)

	Dev. Mkt	World	Emerg. Mkt
Large Cap	-0.1%	0.1%	-1.7%
Mid Cap	-0.7%	-1.1%	-0.4%
Small Cap	-0.8%	-1.1%	-1.6%

Fixed Income (Bloomberg indices)

	1-3 YR	Medium	Long
Treasury	0.1%	-0.5%	-0.7%
Invest. Grade	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.6%
High Yield	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.3%

Year-to-Date Returns (as of September 3)

US Equities (Russell indices)

	Value	Blend	Growth
Large Cap	24.3%	13.9%	4.7%
Mid Cap	22.2%	17.2%	2.4%
Small Cap	24.4%	20.5%	16.9%

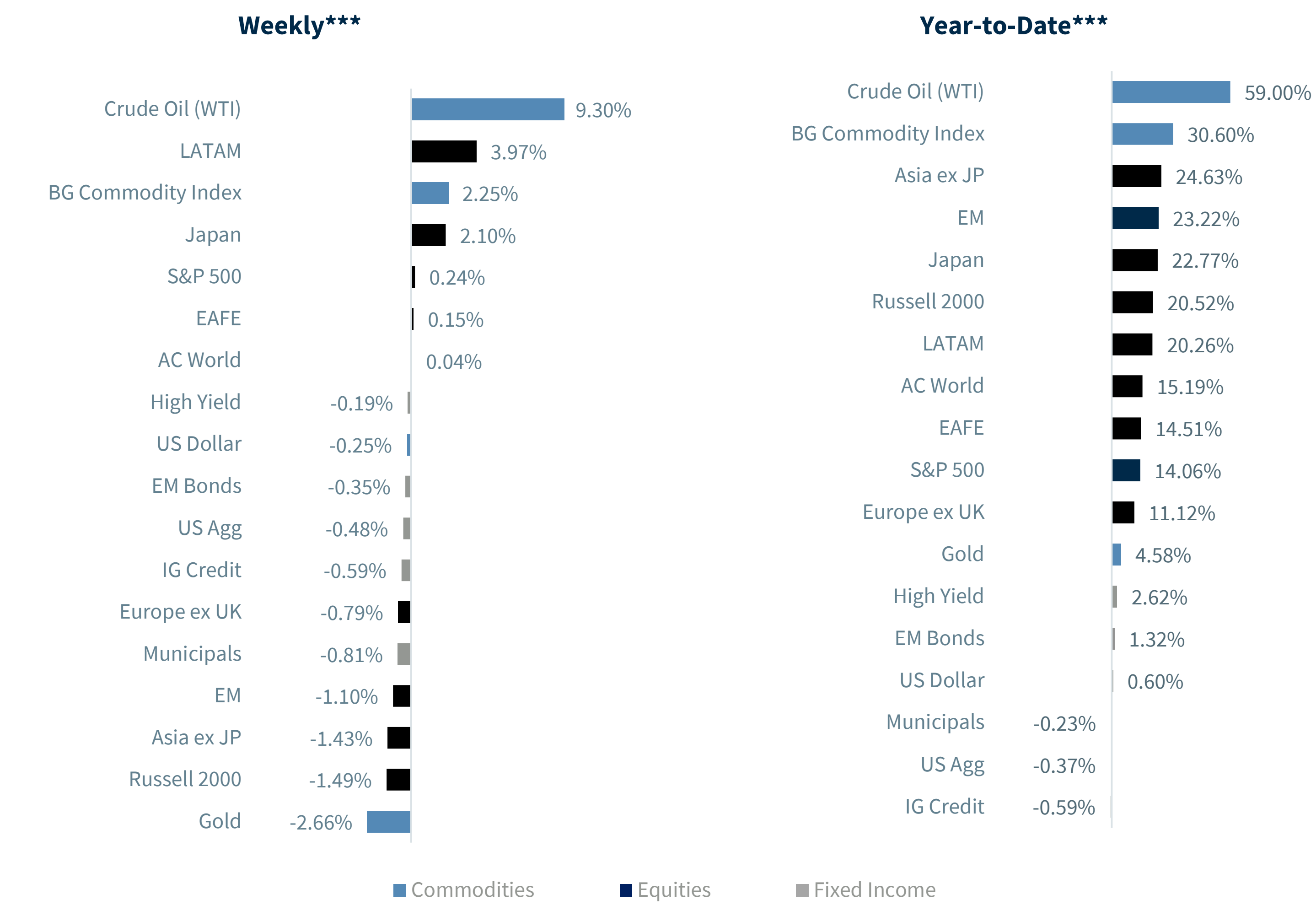
International Equities (MSCI indices)

	Dev. Mkt	World	Emerg. Mkt
Large Cap	14.4%	15.2%	21.9%
Mid Cap	13.9%	14.5%	25.4%
Small Cap	13.1%	17.2%	15.3%

Fixed Income (Bloomberg indices)

	1-3 YR	Medium	Long
Treasury	2.5%	-0.9%	-1.9%
Invest. Grade	1.6%	0.3%	-0.7%
High Yield	2.8%	2.6%	2.9%

Asset Class Performance | Weekly and Year-to-Date (as of September 3)**



**Weekly performance calculated from Thursday close to Thursday close.

***Assumes all asset classes are priced in US dollars unless otherwise noted. Ranked in order of performances (best to worst).

Weekly Data

*As of 9/3/2026 ***

US Equities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
S&P 500	7747.7	0.2	0.8	14.1	21.6	21.3	12.9	15.4
DJ Industrial Average	53686.1	0.2	0.9	11.7	18.6	15.5	8.7	11.2
NASDAQ Composite Index	26584.1	0.2	0.8	14.4	23.7	23.7	11.6	17.6
Russell 1000	8112.4	0.2	0.8	13.9	19.8	20.8	12.1	15.1
Russell 2000	7376.9	(1.5)	0.4	20.5	26.5	17.5	6.8	10.6
Russell Midcap	11455.8	(1.0)	0.4	17.2	17.9	16.8	8.1	11.7

Equity Sectors

Sector	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Materials	661.6	(1.3)	(0.2)	16.4	16.6	9.9	6.4	10.1
Industrials	1474.7	(2.4)	(0.3)	13.2	18.0	18.8	12.6	13.2
Comm Services	460.6	2.1	2.1	2.3	12.1	27.3	10.9	12.3
Utilities	435.0	(0.4)	1.9	2.2	5.5	14.6	7.6	9.2
Consumer Discretionary	1917.8	0.9	(0.1)	(0.1)	4.4	13.6	6.3	12.7
Consumer Staples	937.2	0.6	0.4	10.0	8.2	10.1	7.1	8.2
Health Care	2017.0	1.0	1.7	13.0	28.9	11.0	6.6	11.1
Information Technology	6998.8	(0.4)	0.6	23.6	34.6	31.5	21.1	25.7
Energy	982.8	3.9	1.2	45.9	50.5	16.2	26.4	10.8
Financials	972.2	1.1	1.5	7.9	11.2	21.0	11.0	13.6
Real Estate	284.7	(1.0)	0.3	15.4	15.8	11.2	2.2	6.8

Fixed Income

Index	Yield	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
3-Month Treasury Bill (%)	3.8	0.1	0.0	2.5	3.8	4.7	3.7	2.4
2-Year Treasury (%)	4.3	(0.1)	0.0	0.9	2.3	4.0	1.7	1.6
10-Year Treasury (%)	4.8	(0.7)	(0.2)	(1.9)	0.1	2.7	(2.3)	(0.0)
Bloomberg US Corporate HY	7.7	(0.2)	(0.1)	2.6	4.9	8.5	4.1	5.4
Bloomberg US Aggregate	5.0	(0.5)	(0.1)	(0.4)	1.7	4.2	(0.3)	1.4
Bloomberg Municipals	--	(0.8)	(0.4)	(0.2)	3.6	3.3	0.5	1.9
Bloomberg IG Credit	5.5	(0.6)	(0.2)	(0.6)	1.6	5.1	(0.1)	2.3
Bloomberg EM Bonds	6.3	(0.3)	(0.1)	1.3	4.9	8.3	1.6	3.1

Commodities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
WTI Crude ($/bl)	91.3	9.3	6.5	59.0	42.7	2.2	5.7	7.5
Gold ($/Troy Oz)	4539.9	(2.7)	1.3	4.6	24.9	32.2	19.9	13.1
Bloomberg Commodity Index	143.3	2.3	1.3	30.6	38.5	10.3	8.1	5.6

Currencies

Currency	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
US Dollar Index	98.9	(0.3)	(0.5)	0.6	0.8	(1.7)	1.5	0.3
Euro	1.16	(0.2)	0.0	(1.1)	(0.4)	2.4	(0.4)	0.4
British Pound	1.35	(0.5)	(0.3)	0.5	0.6	2.3	(0.5)	0.2
Japanese Yen	155.42	2.5	2.8	0.9	(4.6)	(2.1)	(6.7)	(3.9)

International Equities

Index	Price	Weekly	MTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
MSCI AC World	1154.7	0.0	0.5	15.2	23.8	21.1	11.3	13.1
MSCI EAFE	3239.0	0.1	0.2	14.5	24.0	19.0	9.6	9.9
MSCI Europe ex UK	3534.0	(0.8)	(0.2)	11.1	21.6	18.1	9.1	10.7
MSCI Japan	5827.5	2.1	1.4	22.8	32.8	20.8	10.1	10.1
MSCI EM	1703.4	(1.1)	(0.9)	23.2	37.4	23.2	8.4	9.5
MSCI Asia ex JP	1122.5	(1.4)	(1.4)	24.6	37.9	24.4	8.5	10.2
MSCI LATAM	3177.3	4.0	4.1	20.3	39.1	16.4	12.6	7.9
Canada S&P/TSX Composite	26567.9	(0.5)	1.0	15.5	27.4	21.2	12.0	9.5

**Weekly performance calculated from Thursday close to Thursday close.

Disclosures

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SMALL CAPS | Investing in small cap stocks generally involves greater risks, and therefore, may not be appropriate for every investor. The prices of small company stocks may be subject to more volatility than those of large company stocks.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTING | International investing involves additional risks such as currency fluctuations, differing financial accounting standards, and heightened political and/or economic instability. These risks are greater in emerging markets.

ENERGY COMMODITIES | Investing in energy commodities is generally considered speculative, with high levels of volatility, limited market regulation, and emerging markets risk. Oil prices are influenced by OPEC decisions and tend to be economically sensitive. Natural gas prices are influenced by weather.

MINING COMMODITIES | Investing in mining commodities is generally considered speculative, with high levels of volatility, limited market regulation, and emerging markets risk. Prices of precious metals such as gold are influenced by central bank decisions. Prices of industrial metals such as copper tend to be economically sensitive.

SECTORS | Sector investments are companies focused on a specific economic sector and are presented here for illustrative purposes only. Sectors, including Tech, are subject to varying levels of competition, economic sensitivity, and political and regulatory risks. Investing in any individual sector involves limited diversification.

CURRENCIES | Currency investing is generally considered speculative, with high levels of volatility and limited market regulation. These risks are greater in emerging markets.

FIXED INCOME | Fixed-income securities (or bonds) are exposed to various risks including but not limited to credit (risk of default of principal and interest payments), market and liquidity, interest rate, reinvestment, legislative (changes to the tax code), and call risks. There is an inverse relationship between interest rate movements and fixed income prices. Generally, when interest rates rise, fixed income prices fall and when interest rates fall, fixed income prices generally rise. A credit rating of a security is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold the security and may be subject to review, revision, suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning Rating Agency. Ratings and insurance do not remove market risk since they do not guarantee the market value of the bond.

MUNICIPAL BONDS | Municipal securities typically provide a lower yield than comparably rated taxable investments in consideration of their tax-advantaged status. Investments in municipal securities may not be appropriate for all investors, particularly those who do not stand to benefit from the tax status of the investment. Please consult an income tax professional to assess the impact of holding such securities on your tax liability.

US TREASURIES | US Treasury securities are guaranteed by the US government and, if held to maturity, generally offer a fixed rate of return and guaranteed principal value.

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES | The Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Price Index is a measure of the prices that people living in the United States, or those buying on their behalf, pay for goods and services.

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX | The Producer Price Index (PPI) is a measure of wholesale inflation, while the Consumer Price Index measures the prices paid by consumers.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX | The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.

CONSUMER SENTIMENT INDEX | The University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Survey (MCSI) is a monthly survey measuring US consumer confidence regarding personal finances, business conditions, and buying conditions. It serves as a key leading economic indicator, forecasting consumer spending by interviewing approximately 600–1,000 households.

ISM MANUFACTURING INDEX | The ISM Manufacturing Index, or Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), is a crucial monthly report on US economic activity based on surveys of manufacturing supply executives. It gauges sector health by tracking new orders, production, employment, supplier deliveries, and inventories. A reading above 50 indicates expansion; below 50 signals contraction.

ISM SERVICES INDEX | The ISM Services Index, now officially known as the Services PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index), is a monthly economic indicator released by the Institute for Supply Management. It measures the performance of the US service sector—which constitutes nearly 80% of the economy—based on surveys of over 400 purchasing managers across 60+ industries, such as finance, retail, and healthcare.

IMPORT/EXPORT PRICE INDICES | The Import and Export Price Indices are economic indicators that measure the average change in prices of goods and services imported into a country from foreign sources, or exported from the US, respectively. These indices act as key metrics for inflation, tracking how changing international costs affect domestic consumers, businesses, and economic policy.

US DOLLAR INDEX | The US Dollar Index is an index (or measure) of the value of the United States dollar relative to a basket of foreign currencies.

EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX | The Employment Cost Index (ECI) measures the change in the hourly cost of labor to employers, tracking both wages and salaries and employee benefits. It is a key economic indicator published quarterly by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

VIX | The Cboe Volatility Index® (VIX®Index) is a leading measure of market expectations of near-term volatility conveyed by S&P 500 Index®(SPX) option prices.

UNIT LABOR COST | Unit labor cost is how much a business pays its workers to produce one unit of output. It is measured by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

CITI US ECONOMIC SURPRISE INDEX | The Citigroup Economic Surprise Index is the sum of the difference between the actual value of various economic data and their consensus forecast. If the index is greater than zero, it means that the overall economic performance is generally better than expected, and the S&P 500 has a high probability of strengthening, and vice versa.

NEW HOME SALES INDEX | The New Home Sales report, released monthly by the US Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), tracks the number of newly constructed, privately-owned single-family homes sold across the US. As a key leading economic indicator, it measures new, signed sales contracts rather than closings.

EXISTING HOME SALES INDEX | The Existing Home Sales report is a monthly economic indicator released by the National Association of Realtors (NAR). It measures the total number of closed transactions for previously owned single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums, and co-ops across the United States.

LEADING ECONOMIC INDEX | The Leading Economic Index (LEI) is a monthly composite statistic published by The Conference Board that predicts future shifts in the business cycle, typically looking six to nine months ahead. It combines 10 forward-looking economic components, such as stock prices, building permits, and manufacturing orders, to signal upcoming economic expansions or recessions before they become evident in the overall economy.

MICHIGAN CONSUMER SENTIMENT INDEX | The Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index (MCSI) is a monthly survey-based economic indicator measuring US consumer confidence regarding their personal finances, business conditions, and buying power. It is a leading indicator for predicting consumer spending, which drives the majority of the US economy.

NFIB SMALL BUSINESS INDEX | The NFIB Small Business Optimism Index is a monthly composite indicator that measures the outlook of U.S. small business owners on economic conditions, employment, and business health.

NAHB/WELLS FARGO HOUSING MARKET INDEX (HMI) | The NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI) is a monthly survey-based gauge of sentiment among U.S. single-family home builders that reflects their views on current and near-term housing market conditions.

Disclosures

DATA SOURCE | FactSet, Bloomberg as of 09/3/2026

DOMESTIC EQUITY DEFINITION

DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE (DJIA) | The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is an index that tracks 30 large, publicly-owned companies trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the NASDAQ.

NASDAQ COMPOSITE INDEX | The Nasdaq Composite Index is the market capitalization-weighted index of over 3,300 common equities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange.

NASDAQ 100 | The Nasdaq-100 Index® includes 100 of the largest domestic and international non-financial companies listed on The Nasdaq Stock Market based on market capitalization. The Index reflects companies across major industry groups including computer hardware and software, telecommunications, retail/wholesale trade and biotechnology. It does not contain securities of financial companies including investment companies.

WILSHIRE 5000 INDEX | The Wilshire 5000 is a broad-market, free-float capitalization-weighted index that measures the performance of the entire U.S. stock market

S&P 500 | The S&P 500 Total Return Index: The index is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. There is over USD 7.8 trillion benchmarked to the index, with index assets comprising approximately USD 2.2 trillion of this total. The index includes 500 leading companies and captures approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

S&P 500 EQUAL WEIGHT INDEX | The S&P 500 Equal Weight Index: The index includes the same constituents as the capitalization weighted S&P 500, but each company in the S&P 500 EWI is allocated a fixed weight - or 0.2% of the index total at each quarterly rebalance.

S&P SMALL CAP 600 | The S&P Small Cap 600: The index tracks 600 US small-capitalization companies. It acts as a benchmark for the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity market and is used by investors to measure performance or gain exposure to smaller-tier growth companies.

LARGE GROWTH | Russell 1000 Growth Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 1000 Index with a greater- than-average growth orientation. Companies in this index have higher price-to-book and price-earnings ratios, lower dividend yields and higher forecasted growth values. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

MID GROWTH | Russell Mid Cap Growth Total Return Index: This index contains stocks from the Russell Midcap Index with a greater-than-average growth orientation. The stocks are also members of the Russell 1000 Growth Index. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

LARGE BLEND | Russell 1000 Total Return Index: This index represents the 1000 largest companies in the Russell 3000 Index. This index is highly correlated with the S&P 500 Index. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

SMALL GROWTH | Russell 2000 Growth Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 2000 Index with a greater- than-average growth orientation. The combined market capitalization of the Russell 2000 Growth and Value Indices will add up to the total market cap of the Russell 2000. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

MID BLEND | Russell Mid Cap Total Return Index: This index consists of the bottom 800 securities in the Russell 1000 Index as ranked by total market capitalization. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

SMALL BLEND | Russell 2000 Total Return Index: This index covers 2000 of the smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index, which ranks the 3000 largest US companies by market capitalization. The Russell 2000 represents approximately 10% of the Russell 3000 total market capitalization. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

LARGE VALUE | Russell 1000 Value Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 1000 Index with a less-than-average growth orientation. Companies in this index have low price-to-book and price-earnings ratios, higher dividend yields and lower forecasted growth values. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

MID VALUE | Russell Mid Cap Value Total Return Index: This index contains stocks from the Russell Midcap Index with a less-than-average growth orientation. The stocks are also members of the Russell 1000 Value Index. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

SMALL VALUE | Russell 2000 Value Total Return Index: This index represents a segment of the Russell 2000 Index with a less-than-average growth orientation. The combined market capitalization of the Russell 2000 Growth and Value Indices will add up to the total market cap of the Russell 2000. This index includes the effects of reinvested dividends.

COMMODITY INDEX DEFINITION

BLOOMBERG COMMODITY INDEX (BCOM) | The Bloomberg Commodity Index is a broadly diversified commodity price index distributed by Bloomberg Index Services Limited.

FIXED INCOME DEFINITION

AGGREGATE BOND | Bloomberg US Agg Bond Total Return Index: The index is a measure of the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable bond market of roughly 6,000 SEC-registered securities with intermediate maturities averaging approximately 10 years. The index includes bonds from the Treasury, Government-Related, Corporate, MBS, ABS, and CMBS sectors.

HIGH YIELD | Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield Total Return Index: The index measures the USD-denominated, high yield, fixed- rate corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below.

Disclosures

BLOOMBERG US CORPORATE INVESTMENT GRADE | The index commonly used as the standard benchmark for US investment-grade corporate debt, and tracks the performance of the USD-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. It captures publicly issued securities across industrial, utility, and financial issuers by companies inside and outside the US.

BLOOMBERG MUNICIPAL BOND INDEX | The index is a measure of the long-term tax-exempt bond market with securities of investment grade (rated at least Baa by Moody's Investors Service and BBB by Standard and Poor's). This index has four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and prerefunded bonds.

BLOOMBERG US CONVERTIBLE LIQUID BOND INDEX | The index tracks the performance of USD-denominated convertible securities, specifically bonds and convertible preferred stock, issued in the US market with a minimum amount outstanding of $350 million.

BLOOMBERG CAPITAL AGGREGATE BOND TOTAL RETURN INDEX | This index represents securities that are SEC-registered, taxable, and dollar denominated. The index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities. The index is designed to minimize concentration in any one commodity or sector. It currently has 22 commodity futures in seven sectors. No one commodity can compose less than 2% or more than 15% of the index, and no sector can represent more than 33% of the index (as of the annual weightings of the components).

BLOOMBERG EMERGING MARKET BOND INDEX | The Bloomberg USD Emerging Market Composite Bond Index is a rules-based, market-value-weighted index engineered to measure USD fixed-rate sovereign and corporate securities issued from emerging markets. The index includes both investment- grade and below-investment-grade securities.

BLOOMBERG WIRP FUTURES MODEL | The Bloomberg World Interest Rate Probability (WIRP) function calculates the implicit forecast for rates after each meeting over the next year for the biggest developed world central banks, based on pricing in futures and overnight index swaps markets.

BLOOMBERG TREASURY INDEX | The Bloomberg US Treasury Index measures US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, nominal debt issued by the US Treasury. Treasury bills are excluded by the maturity constraint but are part of a separate Short Treasury Index. The Index is a component of the US Aggregate, US Universal, Global Aggregate and Global Treasury Indices. The index includes securities with remaining maturity of at least one year.

BLOOMBERG BELLWETHERS INDEX | The Bloomberg US Treasury Bellwethers 30 Yr. Index is a single-security market index that tracks the most recently issued 30-year US Treasury bond.

INTERNATIONAL EQUITY DEFINITION

EMERGING MARKETS EASTERN EUROPE | MSCI EM Eastern Europe Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across four Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Eastern Europe.

EMERGING MARKETS ASIA | MSCI EM Asia Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across eight Emerging Markets countries. With 554 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

EMERGING MARKETS LATIN AMERICA | MSCI EM Latin America Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across five Emerging Markets (EM) countries in Latin America. With 116 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

EMERGING MARKETS | MSCI Emerging Markets Net Return Index: This index consists of 23 countries representing 10% of world market capitalization. The index is available for a number of regions, market segments/sizes and covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each of the 23 countries.

PACIFIC EX-JAPAN | MSCI Pacific Ex Japan Net Return Index: The index captures large- and mid-cap representation across four of 5 Developed Markets (DM) countries in the Pacific region (excluding Japan). With 150 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

JAPAN | MSCI Japan Net Return Index: The index is designed to measure the performance of the large and mid cap segments of the Japanese market. With 319 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in Japan.

NIKKEI 225 INDEX | The Nikkei 225 is Japan's main stock market index, tracking the performance of 225 large, highly traded "blue-chip" companies listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE). It's a price-weighted index, meaning higher-priced stocks have a greater impact, similar to the Dow Jones Industrial Average, and serves as a key indicator of the Japanese economy.

FOREIGN DEVELOPED MARKETS | MSCI EAFE Net Return Index: This index is designed to represent the performance of large and mid-cap securities across 21 developed markets, including countries in Europe, Australasia and the Far East, excluding the U.S. and Canada. The index is available for a number of regions, market segments/sizes and covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each of the 21 countries.

MSCI EAFE | The MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, and Far East) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance, excluding the United States & Canada. The EAFE consists of the country indices of 22 developed nations.

MSCI ACWI | The MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) is a stock index designed to track broad global equity-market performance. The index is comprised of the stocks of about 3,000 companies from 23 developed countries and 26 emerging markets.

MSCI ACWI EX US | The MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) is a stock index designed to track broad global equity-market performance. The index is comprised of the stocks of about 3,000 companies from 23 developed countries and 26 emerging markets.

Disclosures

CANADA S&P/TSX COMPOSITE | The S&P/TSX Composite Index is a capitalization-weighted equity index that tracks the performance of the largest companies listed on primary stock exchange, the Toronto Stock Exchange.

STOXX EUROPE 600 | The Represents large, mid and small capitalization companies across 17 countries of the European region: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

CREDIT | Bloomberg US Credit Total Return Index: The index measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed- rate, taxable corporate and government related bond markets. It is composed of the US Corporate Index and a non-corporate component that includes foreign agencies, sovereigns, supranationals and local authorities.

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